

1 1 USC 1: Words denoting number, gender, and so forth Text contains those laws in effect on
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3 From Title 1-GENERAL PROVISIONSCHAPTER 1-RULES OF CONSTRUCTION

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5 **§1. Words denoting number, gender, and so forth**

6 In determining the meaning of any Act of Congress, unless the context indicates otherwise-

7 words importing the singular include and apply to several persons, parties, or things;

8 words importing the plural include the singular;

9 words importing the masculine gender include the feminine as well;

10 words used in the present tense include the future as well as the present;

11 the words “insane” and “insane person” shall include every idiot, insane person, and person non
12 compos mentis;

13 the words “person” and “whoever” include corporations, companies, associations, firms,
14 partnerships, societies, and joint stock companies, as well as individuals;

15 “officer” includes any person authorized by law to perform the duties of the office;

16 “signature” or “subscription” includes a mark when the person making the same intended it as
17 such;

18 “oath” includes affirmation, and “sworn” includes affirmed;

19 “writing” includes printing and typewriting and reproductions of visual symbols by
20 photographing, multigraphing, mimeographing, manifolding, or otherwise.

21 (July 30, 1947, ch. 388, 61 Stat. 633; June 25, 1948, ch. 645, §6, 62 Stat. 859; Oct. 31, 1951, ch.
22 655, §1, 65 Stat. 710; Pub. L. 112–231, §2(a), Dec. 28, 2012, 126 Stat. 1619.)

23 **Amendments**

24 **2012**-Pub. L. 112–231, in fifth clause after opening clause, struck out “and ‘lunatic’ ” before
25 “shall include every” and “lunatic,” before “insane person.”

26 **1951**-Act Oct. 31, 1951, substituted, in fourth clause after opening clause, “used” for “use”.

27 **1948**-Act June 25, 1948, included “tense”, “whoever”, “signature”, “subscription”, “writing” and
28 a broader definition of “person”.

1 **Short Title of 2012 Amendment**

2 Pub. L. 112–231, §1, Dec. 28, 2012, 126 Stat. 1619, provided that: “This Act [amending this
3 section and sections 92a, 215, and 215a of Title 12, Banks and Banking] may be cited as the
4 ‘21st Century Language Act of 2012’.”

5 **Short Title of 2002 Amendment**

6 Pub. L. 107–207, §1, Aug. 5, 2002, 116 Stat. 926, provided that: “This Act [enacting section 8 of
7 this title] may be cited as the ‘Born-Alive Infants Protection Act of 2002’.”

8 **Short Title of 1996 Amendment**

9 Pub. L. 104–199, §1, Sept. 21, 1996, 110 Stat. 2419, provided that: “This Act [enacting section 7
10 of this title and section 1738C of Title 28, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure] may be cited as the
11 ‘Defense of Marriage Act’.”

12 **References in Pub. L. 113–67**

13 Pub. L. 113–67, div. A, §1(c), Dec. 26, 2013, 127 Stat. 1166, provided that: “Except as expressly
14 provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this Act [Bipartisan
15 Budget Act of 2013, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring only to the
16 provisions of that division.”

17 **References in Pub. L. 113–6**

18 Pub. L. 113–6, §3, Mar. 26, 2013, 127 Stat. 199, provided that: “Except as expressly provided
19 otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in division A, B, C, D, or E of this Act
20 [Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2013, see Tables for classification]
21 shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.”

22 **References in Pub. L. 112–74**

23 Pub. L. 112–74, §3, Dec. 23, 2011, 125 Stat. 787, provided that: “Except as expressly provided
24 otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this Act [Consolidated
25 Appropriations Act, 2012, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring only to the
26 provisions of that division.”

27 **References in Pub. L. 112–55**

28 Pub. L. 112–55, §3, Nov. 18, 2011, 125 Stat. 552, provided that: “Except as expressly provided
29 otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this Act [Consolidated and
30 Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2012, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as
31 referring only to the provisions of that division.”

32 **References in Pub. L. 112–10**

1 Pub. L. 112–10, div. A, title IX, §9015, Apr. 15, 2011, 125 Stat. 102, provided that: “Any
2 reference to ‘this Act’ in this division [Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2011, see
3 Tables for classification] shall apply solely to this division.”

4 **References in Pub. L. 111–118**

5 Pub. L. 111–118, §3, Dec. 19, 2009, 123 Stat. 3409, provided that: “Except as expressly
6 provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this Act [Department
7 of Defense Appropriations Act, 2010, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring
8 only to the provisions of that division.”

9 **References in Pub. L. 111–117**

10 Pub. L. 111–117, §3, Dec. 16, 2009, 123 Stat. 3035, provided that: “Except as expressly
11 provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this Act
12 [Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as
13 referring only to the provisions of that division.”

14 **References in Pub. L. 111–8**

15 Pub. L. 111–8, §3, Mar. 11, 2009, 123 Stat. 525, provided that: “Except as expressly provided
16 otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this Act [Omnibus
17 Appropriations Act, 2009, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring only to the
18 provisions of that division.”

19 **References in Pub. L. 111–5**

20 Pub. L. 111–5, §4, Feb. 17, 2009, 123 Stat. 116, provided that: “Except as expressly provided
21 otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this Act [American Recovery
22 and Reinvestment Act of 2009, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring only to
23 the provisions of that division.”

24 **References in Pub. L. 110–329**

25 Pub. L. 110–329, §3, Sept. 30, 2008, 122 Stat. 3574, provided that: “Except as expressly
26 provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ or ‘this joint resolution’ contained in any division
27 of this Act [Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act,
28 2009, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that
29 division.”

30 **References in Pub. L. 110–161**

31 Pub. L. 110–161, §3, Dec. 26, 2007, 121 Stat. 1845, provided that: “Except as expressly
32 provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this Act

1 [Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2008, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as
2 referring only to the provisions of that division.”

3 **References in Pub. L. 110–116**

4 Pub. L. 110–116, §2, Nov. 13, 2007, 121 Stat. 1295, provided that: “Except as expressly
5 provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this Act [see Tables
6 for classification] shall be treated as referencing only to the provisions of that division.”

7 **References in Pub. L. 109–289**

8 Pub. L. 109–289, div. A, title VIII, §8112, Sept. 29, 2006, 120 Stat. 1299, provided that: “Except
9 as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in this division
10 [Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2007, see Tables for classification] shall be
11 referring only to the provisions of this division.”

12 **References in Pub. L. 109–148**

13 Pub. L. 109–148, div. B, title V, §5002, Dec. 30, 2005, 119 Stat. 2813, provided that: “Except as
14 expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in either division A
15 [Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2006, see Tables for classification] or division B
16 [Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act to Address Hurricanes in the Gulf of Mexico and
17 Pandemic Influenza, 2006, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring only to the
18 provisions of that division.”

19 **References in Pub. L. 109–115**

20 Pub. L. 109–115, div. A, title VIII, §847, Nov. 30, 2005, 119 Stat. 2507, provided that: “Except
21 as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in this division
22 [Transportation, Treasury, Housing and Urban Development, the Judiciary, and Independent
23 Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring
24 only to the provisions of this division.”

25 **References in Pub. L. 108–447**

26 Pub. L. 108–447, §3, Dec. 8, 2004, 118 Stat. 2810, provided that: “Except as expressly provided
27 otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this Act [Consolidated
28 Appropriations Act, 2005, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring only to the
29 provisions of that division.”

30 **References in Pub. L. 108–199**

31 Pub. L. 108–199, §3, Jan. 23, 2004, 118 Stat. 4, provided that: “Except as expressly provided
32 otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this Act [Consolidated

1 Appropriations Act, 2004, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring only to the
2 provisions of that division.”

3 **References in Pub. L. 108–7**

4 Pub. L. 108–7, §3, Feb. 20, 2003, 117 Stat. 12, provided that: “Except as expressly provided
5 otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this joint resolution
6 [Consolidated Appropriations Resolution, 2003, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as
7 referring only to the provisions of that division.”

8 **Continental United States**

9 Pub. L. 86–70, §48, June 25, 1959, 73 Stat. 154, provided that: “Whenever the phrase
10 ‘continental United States’ is used in any law of the United States enacted after the date of
11 enactment of this Act [June 25, 1959], it shall mean the 49 States on the North American
12 Continent and the District of Columbia, unless otherwise expressly provided.”